

# SKEPTICS UFO NEWSLETTER

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ED WALTERS, of Gulf Breeze, Fla., CHARGES THAT SMALL UFO-MODEL FOUND IN HIS FORMER HOME BY ITS NEW OWNER WAS MADE BY "DEBUNKERS" WHO PLANTED IT TO "DISCREDIT THE UFO PHENOMENON." Walters' debunker list includes Dr. Willy Smith, Zan Overall and Bob Boyd—all longtime pro-UFOlogists who call the Walters UFO photos a hoax but who are still "UFO-believers." Plus me, naturally.

If the small UFO model was built by a "debunker," he/she stupidly planted it where it would never have been found if the man who bought Ed's former residence had not decided to modify its cooling system. This required him to trace plumbing in the cramped attic over the garage where he found the small model UFO hidden under some insulation.

The small model was constructed from plastic picnic plates and drafting paper which Walters (a building contractor) had used to prepare a house plan. How did this Walters house plan find its way into the UFO-model? Ed explained that the "debunkers" had stolen it from his garbage. More importantly, Walters claimed he had "sworn statements" to prove the house plan used in the UFO model had not been prepared until Sept. 6/7, 1989--nearly two years AFTER his first UFO photos were taken. If Ed's claim were true, it would implicate others.

However, recent investigation by Gulf Breeze city officials, including Mayor Ed Gray and police chief Jerry Brown--both of whom have publicly denounced Walters UFO claims as a hoax--reveals that Walters made the house plan IN THE SPRING OF 1987--AT LEAST SIX MONTHS BEFORE HE TOOK HIS FIRST UFO PHOTOS--AND NOT TWO YEARS AFTERWARDS, AS WALTERS CLAIMS. MAYOR GRAY RECENTLY INFORMED MUFON OF THESE FINDINGS WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN MADE PUBLIC IN THE NEWS MEDIA. So far, no public response from MUFON.

Public disclosure of the small UFO model's discovery came in the Pensacola News Journal on June 10--less than a month before MUFON's 1990 convention in Pensacola. This proved a mixed blessing for MUFON and Walt Andrus, its international director, who earlier called the Walters' case "one of the most important UFO cases in the past 40 years." Ed Walters and his wife Frances, and UFO-abductionist Budd Hopkins who has strongly endorsed the Walters's case--were scheduled to be (and were) the featured speakers at MUFON's Saturday nite session. Not surprisingly, there was a large turnout of print and TV media coverage for the MUFON conference as well as about 700 attendees.

However, another "shoe dropped" on June 17, when the Pensacola News Journal carried a feature story based on testimony by Tom Smith, Jr., son of a Gulf Breeze lawyer. Young Smith said he had participated with Ed in making hoax UFO photos.

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Young Smith said Ed asked him to take these 35 mm. hoax UFO photos to the Gulf Breeze Sentinel newspaper and to claim that he (Tom, Jr.) had taken the pictures. The young man's father had advised him not to do so. Young Smith retained the 35 mm. negatives of the "UFO". (Walters later took other UFO photos to the newspaper, first claiming they had been taken by a "Mr. X.")

Walters promptly challenged Tom Jr.'s story, claiming that the young man himself had really photographed a "genuine" UFO, but had concocted the "hoax" story because of his family's "religious convictions."

Two days later MUFON held a press conference at which it announced it was reopening its investigation into the Ed Walters case. But MUFON's Andrus emphasized that the new investigation would be based on the presumption that Walters "is innocent until proven guilty." [On this basis, the famous daylight UFO photos of George Adamski from the 1950s and more recent ones by Swiss farmer Billy Meier should be considered authentic because nobody has ever proved they are hoaxes.]

MUFON's Bob Oechsler, who earlier endorsed the Ed Walters UFO photos, after a brief examination of the UFO photos which young Smith says he got from Walters, was quoted as saying: "It's clearly the same object that Ed photographed...In some ways these are even better than Ed's (UFO photos).."

The model, now in the possession of the current resident (who requested his name not be made public), has not yet been disassembled and examined for internal fingerprints. Hopefully that will be done. If Ed's fingerprints are found inside, undoubtedly he will claim they too were planted by "debunkers."

Gulf Breeze Mayor Ed Gray recently revealed that Ed Walters talked to him about his (alleged) UFO sightings even before the photos were published in late 1987 in the local newspaper. Gray says he told Walters that "because of the extraordinary nature" of his UFO claims, he ought to have other witnesses. "I asked him to call me anytime, day or night, the next time he had a sighting. He never called", the Mayor said.

During the MUFON conference, Stanton T. Friedman gave an unqualified endorsement of both the Ed Walters photos and his tale of abduction and being zapped with blue/white beams from the UFO. Friedman recently was named to MUFON's Board and Director of Special Investigations. Quid Pro Quo?

Another endorsement came from Jim Moseley in the July issue of his newsletter, 'Saucer Smear, shortly after he visited Gulf Breeze to investigate the latest developments. Moseley said if Ed built the UFO model, it was "extremely unlikely" that he would forget and leave it behind. Thus he doubts that Walters, with whom Moseley has a close friendship, built the UFO model.

IF it is "extremely unlikely" that Ed Walters could forget to recover the model when he moved, surely Ed would never forget that it is against Florida law for a once-convicted felon like himself (forgery and car theft) to "possess firearms" Right? And if he were violating this law, surely he would never admit it in writing and risk being returned to prison. Right?

WRONG! On page 47 of the Walters' book ("The Gulf Breeze Sightings") Ed wrote that on the night of Nov. 20, 1987: "I LOADED MY SHOTGUN. I LOADED THE .32 CALIBER PISTOL. I LOADED THE .22 RIFLE...I BEGAN TO CARRY THE SHOTGUN IN MY PICKUP TRUCK." (On Mar. 14, 1990, the Florida Office of Executive Clemency, "after making a thorough investigation"--which obviously did not include reading the Walters book--granted Walters a full pardon with the right to possess firearms.)

Another example: When Ed appeared on a radio talk-show on June 16, he was asked "Are UFOs benevolent to people." Ed replied: "They're fairly benevolent. If they realize you are an avid UFO watcher, they really won't harass you." Ed forgot what dreadful things he claims the UFO did to him: For example: "The [UFO's] blue beam had hit me like compression...the right side of my forehead felt like it had a knife piercing through to the back of my eye socket." (p. 29 of his book). PERHAPS ED DOESN'T KNOW THE MEANING OF THE WORD "BENEVOLENT"??

Bruce Maccabee, who says he decided the Walters photos were not a hoax before Ed offered him \$20,000 to write a chapter for the Walters book, continues to support every Walters claim and explanation. Maccabee believes that the small UFO model was the work of debunkers. Maccabee sees no "conflict-of-interest" in his ability to objectively assess new evidence and his financial involvement with Walters. (When Ed Walters turned to Maccabee for help at one point in Ed's MUFON lecture, the man sitting next to me leaned over, motioned toward Ed and Bruce and mumbled: "the gold dust twins."

While Andrus, Friedman, Maccabee and Moseley endorse/support Ed Walters, growing numbers of long-time UFOlogists who are "UFO-believers" have denounced the case as a hoax. [See SUN-1, p.5.] Most recent is Marge Christensen, who has resigned from MUFON's Board and as MUFON's Director of Education in protest against its "unscientific" handling and endorsement of the Gulf Breeze case.

Another Gulf Breeze skeptic is Don Schmitt, Director of Special Investigations for the Hynek Center for UFO Studies (CUFOS). A new report, published by CUFOS and sold at the recent MUFON conference, indicates that Ed Walters used his old Polaroid camera to take double-exposure trick photographs at parties more than a year before, he told Bruce Maccabee that he did not know that double exposures could easily be made--simply by not pulling down the photo after the first exposure.

The 44-page CUFOS report, authored by pro-UFOlogist Zan

Overall deals with a trick photo taken by Ed Walters with his old Polaroid camera at a teen-age party held for friends of his children at which they would sit around in a circle and tell ghost stories. According to several of the teen-agers who participated, Ed Walters predicted that a ghost-demon would appear to be hovering over the shoulder of one girl. Lo and behold, when he snapped her picture and pulled out the Polaroid print, there was a ghost-like image hovering over her shoulder.

Walters and Maccabee claim the ghost-like image is simply a chance reflection of camera flash illumination off of a glass door in the North wall of the recreation room where the picture was taken. But enhanced prints made by Dr. Willy Smith show pictures known to be hanging on the South wall where there were no glass doors to produce chance reflections.

More recently, Walters has admitted that he knew how to take trick-photographs with his old Polaroid by defocusing its lens-- but still claims he never once accidentally made a double-exposure with his camera during the 17 years he used it.

Copy of the report, entitled "Gulf Breeze Double Exposed, is available for \$8.00 from CUFOS, 2457 W. Peterson, Chicago, Ill. 60659.

It will be interesting to see what Jerry Clark--editor of the CUFOS International UFO Reporter (IUR)--has to say about Overall's report. In Clark's editorial in the March/April 1990 issue of IUR he wrote: "In my opinion...Gulf Breeze so far looks like a legitimate and significant UFO case...the photos--unlike those associated with George Adamski and other flim-flamers to whom Ed Walters was early and unfairly compared--give every appearance of authenticity..."

Another respected pro-UFOlogist, Jim Speiser, several weeks before the recent MUFON conference sent an "open letter" to Ed Walters which urged him to come clean, i.e. to explain how he had "pull(ed) off one of the greatest hoaxes in [UFO] history" and fooled "some of the brightest scientific minds in the field."

That seems unlikely with book royalties rolling in, foreign editions of the Walters book in Germany and soon in Japan. And, according to Ed, filming is to begin this fall for an ABC-TV mini-series, expected to air early next year.

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PJK PSYCHIC PREDICTION: If Ed Walters should ever confess that his UFO photos and tales were only a hoax, I predict that Walt Andrus, Bruce Maccabee, Bob Oeschler and Stanton Friedman will charge that Walters has been brainwashed or bought off by the CIA.

ET FEMALES ARE SEXUALLY ACTIVE WITH ABDUCTEES--BUT NOT ET MALES:

According to Budd Hopkins, there are a number of cases in which male "abductees" report having sexual intercourse with alien females, but only "one or two marginal cases" where female abductees report having sex with an ET male. (Hopkins forgets "Andrea," discussed at some length in his book "Intruders", who told him she became pregnant after she dreamed she was having sex with a "funny looking" bald-headed man. Hopkins concluded it was no dream and her sex partner was an ET.)

Hopkins discussion of the sexual mores of ETs came during a question-answer session at the recent MUFON conference. He revealed that ETs now seem to exhibit voyeuristic tendencies. Hopkins said "there are a number of cases--which seem very, very reliable--where a male and a female human abductee--who do not know one another--[are forced into]...an act of sex...We have no idea how people are able to accomplish this. Almost impossible to imagine. And yet there are entirely too many cases of that being reported to dispute it," Hopkins said.

In response to a question as to whether ETs reported by abductees are a single species, Hopkins said that in about 85% of the cases, the ETs are described as being short, bald, with large eyes. But for the other 15%, descriptions of the ETs are "wide ranging," including some said to be "lizard-like." Hopkins added that "in many, many cases, we have two or three [different] types together on the same ship [UFO]...They all seem to be cooperating with one another."

Hopkins' biography, published in the 1990 MUFON conference proceedings, says a film version of his book "Intruders," is scheduled to be produced by Larry Gordon, who produced "Field of Dreams." [How very appropriate.] Hopkins' book is now available in Italian, Spanish and Dutch editions and is to be published in Portuguese, Swedish and Japanese.

PJK PSYCHIC PREDICTION: Although reports of UFO abductions have been rare outside the U.S. and Canada, I predict that ETs will soon start abducting persons in Portugal/Brazil, in Spain and other Spanish speaking countries, in Sweden, Holland and Japan. But there will not be many reports of UFO-abductions in Bulgaria, Poland, Rumania or China--until Hopkins' book is translated and published in those countries.

Hopkins is writing new book, being co-authored with Penelope Franklin, which is tentatively titled: "A Crack in the Universe-- The Psychological Impact of UFO Encounters." Will the new book reveal that Hopkins, himself is a "UFO-abductee"--a fate that seems to befall those who work as "abductionists"?

First it was Dr. Leo Sprinkle--a pioneer in the field--who discovered in 1980, under hypnosis, that he had been abducted as a child by a tall, thin and very benevolent ET. More recently,

long-time pro-UFOlogist Ray Fowler--who authored two books on "abductee" Betty Andreasson--reports that he too has discovered he is an abductee. C'est La Vie!

During the three days I spent in Pensacola during the MUFON conference--and especially during the bus tour of Gulf Breeze's "UFOlogically Hot" areas where Walters reportedly had his encounters--I silently prayed that I too might be abducted--becoming rich and famous like Whitley Strieber and Ed Walters. I even went out after midnight, alone. But alas, seemingly the ETs consider me too old to be of use in their breeding experiments. If/when I am abducted, my book will be titled: "Lucky Me".

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SURPRISE, SURPRISE, SURPRISE!

Report by Stanton Friedman on his \$16,000 year-long investigation into the authenticity of the "MJ-12" documents has recently been published and you'll never be able to guess his conclusions. Not in a million years!

"NONE OF THE ARGUMENTS [that the MJ-12 papers are counterfeit] PASSES A SCIENTIFIC SCREENING AS TO THEIR WORTHWHILNESS. THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT THE DOCUMENTS MUST THEREFORE BE CONSIDERED GENUINE..."

Who could have guessed that Friedman's year-long investigation would lead him to conclude that the papers are genuine--as he had been insisting from the moment the papers were released in May, 1987, until he began his "scientific investigation." Selecting Friedman to conduct such a study is a bit like hiring a fox to determine whether the chickens need protection from predators.

Friedman's report challenges my claim that the "Harry Truman" signature on the MJ-12 Truman letter of Sept. 24, 1947, with accidental scratch marks alongside one leg of the "H" is "suspiciously like" the signature on a genuine Truman letter of Oct. 7, 1947 with similar scratch marks. And this indicates that the MJ-12 signature is a counterfeit photocopy ("Xerox") of the genuine Oct. 7 signature--as confirmed by a respected New York City Document Examiner.

Friedman "forgets" to mention that he himself earlier noted the "match" between the two signatures. But he then erroneously concluded that this showed that the MJ-12 signature was authentic--when it showed quite the opposite.

Friedman challenges the handwriting forgery expert I cited--Albert S. Osborn--because he died before the Xerox machine was invented and his "suspiciously like" comments applied to signatures that were traced rather than photocopied. Friedman dismisses Osborn's expertise on "suspiciously like" signatures by commenting: "Clearly, none of this has anything to do with Xerox machines, or signatures by people who sign loads of documents

every working day."

In assessing whether the MJ-12 documents are authentic, Friedman says, "I have adopted the approach taken by one of the world's most authoritative linguistic experts, Dr. Roger Wescott, that with regard to Questioned Documents, the burden of proof is on those who would claim the documents are forged."

In October, 1988, I interviewed by telephone the man whom Friedman characterizes as "one of the world's most authoritative linguistic experts." When I asked Wescott how many documents of questionable authenticity he had analyzed during his long career, he replied: "A small number...several." Wescott told me that authentication "isn't something I usually do." He added that "the Hillenkoetter [MJ-12] documents are the first in which I was asked to do anything official." In the several other instances, Wescott explained, he was simply asked for his "impressions" as to the document's authenticity. Wescott added: "This [authentication] is not my specialty."

Friedman's basic report runs 61 pages plus another 39 pages of appendices, including the MJ-12 papers and some of his/my correspondence. The amount of new and germane material in the report--that has not appeared in earlier Friedman MUFON/IUR papers--is minimal. If the Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR) opted to sue Friedman on the grounds of obtaining money under false pretenses using Friedman's report as evidence, I suspect they would win.

Copy of "Final Report on Operation Majestic 12," can be purchased for \$12.50 from FUFOR, P.O.Box 277, Mt. Rainier, Md. 20712. Friedman also is selling copies, but considering that FUFOR put up the \$16K, if you want to waste your money on Friedman polemics, better it should go into FUFOR's coffers.

#### MORE MOORE MJ-12 "FINGERPRINTS" DISCOVERED:

When Japanese UFOlogist Jun-Ichi Takanashi, chairman of the Japan UFO Science Society, ordered a copy of William L. Moore's paper "The Mystery of the Green Fireballs" he never dreamed the paper would provide new clues as to who typed the MJ-12 Hillenkoetter briefing document.

Because some of the original government documents were hard to read, Moore thoughtfully retyped them. Takanashi had read my MJ-12 article which pointed out the unusual hybrid civil-military date format with superfluous comma used throughout the Hillenkoetter briefing document--the same unusual date format long used by Moore in his' personal letters. Also, that the person who had typed the Hillenkoetter document had inserted a zero in front of a single-digit date--as Moore does. This was not normally done in 1952 when the Hillenkoetter documents allegedly were typed.

Takanashi noted that this same unusual "Moore/Hillenkoetter date format" was used in documents that Moore had retyped for his Green Fireballs paper. Also, that one 1949 document that Moore retyped, showed a zero in front of a single-digit date. But he did not know whether this unusual "Moore/Hillenkoetter date format" was used in the original documents or whether Moore had unconsciously changed the format while retyping the documents.

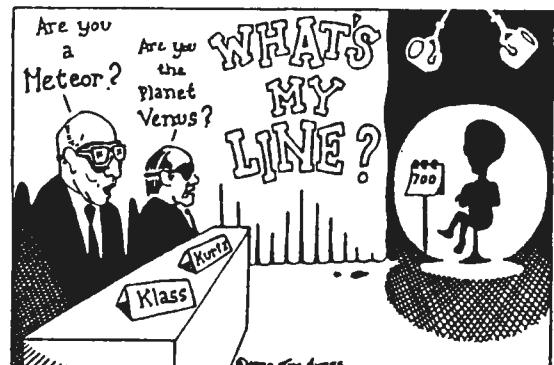
On May 8, 1990, the Japanese UFOlogist wrote Barry Greenwood, editor of the Just Cause newsletter, bringing the matter to his attention. Fortunately, Greenwood's microfilm copy of the Project Blue Book UFO files included the letters that Moore had retyped. The original report showed the date "9 February 1949" but Moore typed it as "09 February, 1949". In other dual-digit dates, Moore had unconsciously added the "superfluous comma" after the month! (Photo-copies of originals and Moore's retyped copy can be found in the June, 1990, issue of Just Cause.)

NEW BOOK BY FORMER N.Y. TIMES REPORTER CLAIMS DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY LAUNCHED TOP-SECRET UFO STUDY IN 1987.

The book, titled "Out There: The Government's Secret Quest for Extraterrestrials," authored by Howard Blum and published by Simon & Schuster, is due in September. Blum earlier authored best seller on the Walker spy family. His publisher says rights have been sold for a four-hour TV mini-series on NBC, that it has TV commitments from "60 Minutes" and "Oprah," and that Blum will make a 10-city author tour for talk-shows and interviews.

Blum assures his readers that "this is a true story. I verified every name, incident, date and conversation." In one chapter Blum describes my career as a technical journalist and skeptical UFO investigator in not-unflattering terms. In those five pages I found 25 factual errors. Although we only talked by phone, he describes me as "jaunty, pencil-thin." I've not been "pencil thin" for 40 years.

Even if Blum had more honestly labelled his book as fiction, it deserves low marks because it is so riddled with errors on matters which are so easy to check. (More detailed review in next issue)



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